are likely to be created for the labour during the coming years?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI BINDESHWARI DUBEY): (a) According to the Seventh Plan Document, employment in terms of Standard Person Years is projected to grow at an annual rate of 3.99 per cent over the period 1985-90. Information on increase in employment on yearly basis is not available.

(b) The major programmes for alleviating poverty and creating employment have been reviewed as a part of the Mid Term Appraisal of the Seventh Five Year Plan. The Mid Term Appraisal states that while the targets of employment generation under the major employment generating programmes have been achieved during the first two years of the Plan, there is an urgent need for a closer and purposive integration between the special anti-poverty programmes and the development strategy both for a better effectiveness of the programmes and ensuring lasting solutions to the problems of *poverty and unemployment. Information* is not available on the percentage by which employment opportunities are likely to be created during the coming years.

Setting up of Newsprint Supply and Credit Corporation

*58. SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR:

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Federation of Small and Medium Newspapers (IFSMN) has called for the setting up of a Newsprint Supply and Credit Corporation to meet the Vagaries of the shortage of newsprint and lifting of the quota in bulk by the small and medium newspapers; and

(b) whether the President of IFSMN has held the increase in newsprint price as "anti-growth' as the newspaper industry is already facing a challenge to upgrade the technology for better production and impact, if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) and (b) The Government has seen the newspaper reports on this subject. It does not share the view that the increase in the price of newsprint is "anti-growth". While the price of indigenous newsprint is fixed by the Ministry of Industry after taking into account various factors, the price of imported newsprint is fixed by a duly constituted price Fixation Committee on which the newspaper industry is adequately represented. The existing arrangements are adequate to ensure a sustained supply of newsprint to the newspapers. It is not considered necessary to set up any newsprint supply and credit corporation for this purpose.

Participation of women in Agricultural and Rural Development Projects

*59. SHRI CHANDRIKA PRASAD TRIPATHI:

DR. RATNAKAR PANDEY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose for greater participation of women in agricultural and rural development projects especially in national projects like drinking water supply etc.; and

(b) if so, the steps taken so far by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARY): (a) and (b) The steps taken by the Government of India for greater participation of Women in various agricultural and rural

development programmes are briefly enumerated below:—

(i) In the Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP), in 1985 it was targetted that atleast 30 per cent beneficiaries must be women. Achievement during 1985-86, 1986-87 and 1987-88 was 9.89 per cent, 15.13 per cent and 19.53 per cent respectively.

(ii) In the scheme Training of Rural Youth for Self-employment (TRYSEM), it is laid down that 33-1/3 per cent trainees must be women. As against it, achievement during 1987-88 is 46.97 per cent.

(iii) A separate programme designed exclusively for women, namely, Development of Women and Children in Rural Areas (DWCRA) was started in September, 1982 for improving the economic and social status of women by providing them income generating opportunities on self-sustaining basis. The coverage of this programme is being expanded every year in a phased manner. As on 31-3-1988, the programme was operative in 106 districts. 25 more districts are proposed to be covered during 1988-89.

(iv) Under NREP and RLEGP, there are no separate targets for employment of women. However, the coverage of women under these programme is separately monitored. During 1987-88 women employment under NREP and RLEGP was 17.17 per cent and 19.64 per cent respectively.

(v) Instructions have been issued to State Governments to issue Joint Pattas in the name of husband and wife in the case of allotment of land.

(vi) Guidelines provide that women should be invariably consulted in selection of sites for water supply schemes and that a certificate of completion of hand pump/stand posts is to be taken after consulting a women representative in the village that work has been done satisfactorily.

(vii) To improve the knowledge and skills of farm women in agriculture, the States of Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Orissa are implementing projects on "Training of Women in Agriculture". Under the Training and Visit (T&V) System of Agricultural Extension, inclusion of women as contact-farmers is also being emphasised. In September, 1987, the Department of Agriculture & Cooperation, Directorate of Extension also organised a National Workshop on "Women in Agriculture".

Allotment of rice to Tamil Nadu

*60. SHRI M. VINCENT: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently reduced the monthly allotment of rice to Tamil Nadu from 80 thousand tonnes to 40 thousand tonnes; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to increase the allotment of rice to Tamil Nadu?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) The monthly allocation of rice to Tamil Nadu is presently maintained at 50,000 tonnes a month.

(b) Does not arise.

Under utilisation of NREP and RLEGP funds by Orissa.

318. KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government of Orissa, had not been able to utilised fully the funds allotted under the Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme and the National Rural Employment Programme; and